

1                   1.     An injection blow molding machine having a turret with at  
2     least three planar faces, each of the planar faces carrying at least one hollow core  
3     rod, the turret being rotatable by an indexing motion to present each face,  
4     successively, at a plurality of stations to form, at one of said stations, a preform of an  
5     article on said at least one core rod at said one of said stations, and then to form, at a  
6     successive one of said stations, a blown article from said at least one of said  
7     preforms, and apparatus for cooling said core rod at said one of said stations, said  
8     apparatus comprising:

9                                 a source of compressed air;  
10                                means for conditioning compressed air from said source; and  
11                                means for circulating conditioned compressed air from said  
12     means for conditioning compressed air through said at least one core rod at said one  
13     of said stations.

1                   2.     Apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said means for  
2     conditioning comprises pressure regulating means for regulating pressure of said  
3     compressed air.

1                   3.     Apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said means for  
2     conditioning comprises heater means for heating said compressed air.

1                   4.     Apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said means for  
2     conditioning comprises cooler means for cooling said compressed air.

1                   5.     Apparatus according to Claim 4 wherein said cooler means  
2     comprises means for injecting a spray of water into said compressed air.

1                   6. Apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said means for  
2 circulating compressed air comprises means for exhausting compressed air from said  
3 at least one core rod at said one of said stations.

1                   7. Apparatus according to Claim 6 wherein said means for  
2 exhausting comprises means for discharging compressed air from said at least one  
3 core rod to atmosphere.

1                   8. Apparatus according to Claim 6 and further comprising:  
2 means for compressing compressed air exhausted from said at  
3 least one core rod and returning said compressed air exhausted from said at least one  
4 core rod to said means for circulating compressed air for conditioning by said means  
5 for conditioning to return said compressed air exhausted from said at least one core  
6 rod to said at least one core rod.

1                   9. The method of cooling an injection molded parison of a  
2 thermoplastic material on a core rod, the method comprising:  
3 providing a supply of compressed air from a source;  
4 conditioning the supply of compressed air; and  
5 circulating the conditioned, compressed air through an interior  
6 of the core rod.

1                   10. The method according to Claim 9 wherein the conditioning of  
2 the supply of compressed air comprises:  
3 regulating the pressure of the supply of compressed air.

1                   11. The method according to Claim 9 wherein the step of  
2                   conditioning the supply of compressed air comprises:

3                   heating the supply of compressed air.

1                   12. The method according to Claim 9 wherein the conditioning of  
2                   the supply of compressed air comprises:

3                   cooling the supply of compressed air.

1                   13. The method according to Claim 12 wherein the cooling of the  
2                   supply of compressed air comprises:

3                   injecting a water spray into the supply of compressed air.

1                   14. The method according to Claim 9 and further comprising:

2                   exhausting conditioned air from the core rod.

1                   15. The method according to Claim 14 wherein the exhausting of  
2                   conditioned air from the core rod comprises:

3                   discharging the exhausted compressed air from the core rod to  
4                   atmosphere.

1                   16. The method according to Claim 14 wherein the exhausting of  
2                   conditioned air from the core rod comprises:

3                   recompressing and reconditioning the exhausted compressed  
4                   air and returning the recompressed and reconditioned exhausted compressed air to  
5                   the core rod.

- 1                    17.    The method according to Claim 9 wherein the thermoplastic  
2    material is selected from the group consisting of low density polyethylene, high  
3    density polyethylene and polypropylene.